

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for assisting speech recovery comprising a thin-walled, hollow tube capable of transmitting vibrations caused by speech, said tube having cutouts in each end such that each said end will fit to the front of a person's neck in the voice box area.
2. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube is in the range from about 10 cm to about 40 cm in length.
3. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube has a uniform diameter.
4. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube has a diameter graduating from a smaller diameter at one end to a larger diameter at the other end.
5. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube is in the range from about 2 cm to about 8 cm in diameter.
6. The device of Claim 1 wherein the walls of said tube are from about 0.5 mm to about 5 mm in thickness.

7. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube has an adjustable length.
8. The device of Claim 1 wherein said tube is made of a material selected from the group of cardboard, plastic, and metal.
9. The device of Claim 8 wherein said tube is made of cardboard.
10. The device of Claim 8 wherein said tube is made of plastic.
11. The device of Claim 8 wherein said tube is made of metal.
12. A method of assisting a person with aphasia, apraxia or other condition with similar effect to recover their speaking ability, said method comprising:
- (a) pressing one end of a thin-walled hollow tube against the outside of the neck in the voice box area of the throat of a speaking person and simultaneously pressing the other end of said thin-walled hollow tube against the outside of the neck in the voice box area of the throat of said person with aphasia, apraxia or other condition with similar effect; and

(b) said speaking person vocalizing sounds while said thin-walled hollow tube is pressed against the outside of the neck in the voice box area of the throat of said speaking person and pressed against the outside of the neck in the voice box area of the throat of said person with aphasia, apraxia or other condition with similar effect.

13. The method recited in Claim 12 further comprising:

(c) said person with aphasia, apraxia or other condition with similar effect attempting to vocalize the same sounds vocalized by said speaking person simultaneously with said speaking person vocalizing said sounds.

14. The method recited in Claim 12 wherein said sounds are vowel sounds.

15. The method recited in Claim 12 wherein said sounds are consonant sounds.

16. The method recited in Claim 12 wherein said tube vibrates in the range from about 100 Hz to about 10 kHz.

17. The method recited in Claim 12 wherein steps (a) and (b) are repeated.

18. The method recited in Claim 13 wherein steps (a), (b) and (c) are repeated.

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